

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please add the following paragraph after the Title:

--Cross-Reference to Related Application

This application is a National Phase of PCT International Application No. PCT/EP2004/013004, filed on November 17, 2004, now International Publication WO 2005/050820 and claims priority from German Patent Application 103 54 220.5 filed on November 20, 2003, the contents of which are hereby incorporated by reference. --

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 1, line 3, as follows:

The present invention relates to a commutator for an electric machine, comprising a support member made from an insulating molding compound, a plurality of metal conductor segments disposed thereon in evenly spaced manner around the commutator axis, with terminal elements disposed thereon for a rotor winding, and an interference-suppression device, to which the conductor segments are connected in electrically conductive manner, wherein the interference-suppression device comprises a number, corresponding to the number of conductor segments, of individual interference-suppression elements disposed around the commutator axis, and an equally large number of contact bridges, each of which is connected to an associated conductor segment in electrically conductive manner and connects two mutually adjacent interference-suppression elements to one another and to the associated conductor segment in electrically conductive manner.

Please add the following new paragraphs starting at page 3, line 5:

A commutator of the type cited in the introduction, with individual interference-suppression elements, is known from Japanese Patent 9-51659 A. Between each two mutually adjacent interference-suppression elements there is clamped a contact bridge with a resilient, conductive member, this member bearing on the outside of the respective associated conductor portion with a middle portion that is slightly deformed radially inward. At the ends of the contact bridges there are provided inwardly bent-over end portions, which bear flatly on the interference-suppression elements in question.

This known commutator also suffers from the disadvantage of undesirably large dimensions.

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 3, line 6, as follows:

In view of the prior art appraised in the foregoing Accordingly, the problem underlying the present invention is to provide a long-lived, reliable, interference-suppressed commutator of the class in question, which commutator, in view of its suitability for mass production, can be made at low costs with little manufacturing expense. A particularly preferable object is to manufacture an interference-suppressed commutator with substantially the same dimensions as a non-interference-suppressed commutator of the same design.

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 3, line 13, as follows:

This object is achieved according to the present invention by the fact that ~~the interference-suppression device comprises a number of individual interference-suppression elements corresponding to the number of conductor segments and an equally large number of contact bridges, each of which connects~~

~~two mutually adjacent interference suppression elements to one another in electrically conductive manner, each contact bridge being is provided with two inwardly directed legs, which are flexible relative to one another in circumferential direction and are connected to the two associated interference-suppression elements in electrically conductive manner, and with one outwardly directed foot portion, which is connected to the associated conductor segment in electrically conductive manner, the contact bridges being soldered or adhesively bonded in the region of their leg to the associated interference-suppression elements and in the region of their foot portions to the associated conductor segments.~~

Please add the following paragraph at page 4, line 19:

According to the invention, the contact bridges are permanently connected to the interference-suppression elements by means of simple soldered joints or even joints formed with electrically conductive adhesive in the region of the contact points. The situation is analogous for the connection of the contact bridges to the respective conductor segments in the region of the foot portion in question that contacts the conductor segments. In this regard, suitable metallization (such as a coating of silver or tin) of the interference-suppression elements in the region of their contact poles and/or of the contact bridges in the region of the legs may prove favorable; and in this regard it is also favorable for the contact bridges to be manufactured from copper, brass or an alloy containing these metals. Such permanent connections of the contact bridges to the interference-suppression elements and/or to the conductor segments, which are subject to only small mechanical loads due to the flexible construction of the contact bridges in the circumferential direction, as is the case for the interference-suppression elements themselves,

prove to be particularly advantageous when the inventive commutator is used in a corrosive environment.

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 4, line 20, as follows:

Within the scope of the present invention, it is essential that the “electrically conductive connections” of the contact bridges with the contact poles or contact faces of the respective two adjacent interference-suppression elements also be suitable for transmission of mechanical forces. As “electrically conductive connections” of the contact bridges with the contact poles or contact faces of the respective two adjacent interference-suppression elements, there can be considered, in the scope of the present invention, several electrically conductive contacting arrangements, provided they are also suitable for transmission of mechanical forces; in particular, a special joining material such as solder is preferably used (see hereinafter), but in any case it is not necessarily provided for all embodiments of the invention. Direct and indirect contacting of the contact bridges with the interference-suppression elements without having disadvantageous effects on the useful life of the commutator is achieved by the fact that the contact bridges can deform to compensate for different thermal-expansion behavior of the individual commutator components.

Please delete the paragraph starting at page 5, line 8:

~~Particularly preferably, the contact bridges are permanently connected to the interference suppression elements by means of simple soldered joints or even joints formed with electrically conductive adhesive in the region of the contact points. The situation is analogous for the connection of the contact bridges to the respective conductor segments in the region of the foot portion in question that contacts the conductor segments. In this regard, suitable metallization (such as a coating of silver or tin) of the interference suppression elements in the region of their contact poles and/or of the contact bridges in the region of the~~

~~legs may prove favorable; and in this regard it is also favorable for the contact bridges to be manufactured from copper, brass or an alloy containing these metals. Such permanent connections of the contact bridges to the interference suppression elements and/or to the conductor segments, which are subject to only small mechanical loads due to the flexible construction of the contact bridges in the circumferential direction, as is the case for the interference suppression elements themselves, prove to be particularly advantageous when the inventive commutator is used in a corrosive environment.~~